Okanagan Region

MANAGEMENT DIRECTION STATEMENT

March, 2003

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection
Environmental Stewardship Division

for **Anarchist**
Protected Area

Anarchist
Protected Area

Forward and Approvals Page

Forward

Anarchist Protected Area was primarily set aside for the protection of a representative portion of the South Okanagan Highlands Ecosection, an ecosection that is poorly represented within the province. In addition, within the Anarchist Protected Area, 19 red and 6 blue provincially listed species can be found. The protected area still retains some unique remnant low elevation old growth stands of Ponderosa pine, larch and Douglas-fir.

Approvals

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Date: March 7, 2003

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Date: Mar. 31/03

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Introduction

Purpose of the Management Direction Statement

A management direction statement (MDS) provides strategic management direction for a protected area. A MDS also describes protected area values, management issues and concerns, a management strategy focused on immediate priority objectives and strategies, and direction statements from other planning processes. While strategies may be identified in the MDS, the development and implementation of all these strategies is subject to funding. In addition, all development associated with these strategies within the protected area is subject to the BC Parks' Impact Assessment Policy.

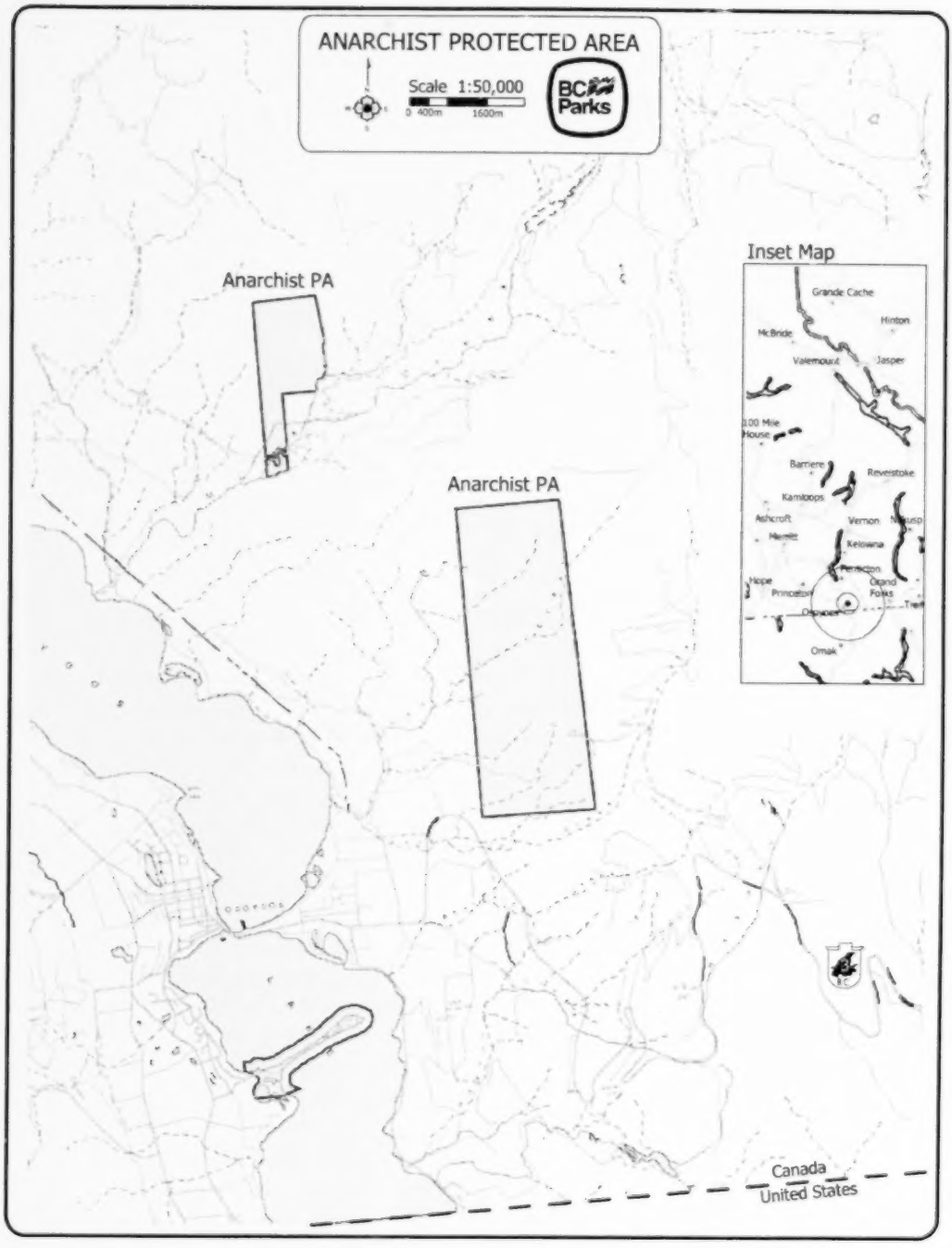
This MDS was developed through direction received from the Okanagan-Shuswap Land and Resource Management Plan (OSLRMP), as well as comments from government staff, stakeholders and interest groups.

Setting and Context

The provincial Protected Areas Strategy (PAS) provided the framework for identifying areas that would contribute towards ecological representation within the province. As part of that strategy, the provincial government undertook many strategic level regional planning initiatives (higher-level plans) throughout the province. The Okanagan-Shuswap Land and Resource Management Plan is the higher-level plan that pertains to the Anarchist Protected Area. The OSLRMP recommended that a number of protected areas be established to protect natural, cultural heritage and/or recreational values. The LRMP Table used the Protected Areas Strategy as a guide in the selection of protected areas and in providing directions for their management.

Anarchist Protected Area was recommended by the Okanagan-Shuswap Land and Resource Management Plan in 2000 and established by Order in Council under the *Environment and Land Use Act* on April 18, 2001. The *Park Act* and associated regulations apply as if the protected area is a Class A provincial park. The intent is to transfer the protected area to Schedule D of the *Protected Areas of British Columbia Act* to establish it as a Class A park. The Anarchist Protected Area is located approximately 2 km east of Osoyoos in the south Okanagan Valley of British Columbia. The Anarchist Protected Area consists of 2 Sites which cover a total area of approximately 467 hectares.

The area was primarily set aside for the protection of a representative portion of the South Okanagan Highlands Ecosection, an ecosection that is poorly represented within the province. In addition, within the Anarchist Protected Area, 19 red and 6 blue provincially listed species can be found. The protected area still retains some unique remnant low elevation old growth stands of ponderosa pine, larch and Douglas-fir.


ANARCHIST PROTECTED AREA
Scale 1:50,000
0 400m 1600m
BC Parks
Anarchist PA
Anarchist PA
Inset Map
Grande Cache
Hinton
McBride
Valemount
Jasper
100 Mile House
Barriere
Revelstoke
Kamloops
Ashcroft
Vernon
Kelowna
Penticton
Princeton
Osoyoos
Omak
Canada
United States

Protected Area Attributes

Conservation

- Situated in the South Okanagan Highland and Southern Okanagan Basin ecosections
- Contains portions of three biogeoclimatic zones: Bunchgrass – very dry/hot (BGxh1), Interior Douglas-fir – very dry/hot (IDFxh1), and Ponderosa Pine – very dry/hot (PPxh1)

BEC Variant	Province (ha)	Hectares within existing protected areas	% of variant within existing protected areas	Hectares protected within Anarchist	% of provincial protected area in Anarchist
BGxh1	49743	2443	4.9%	16	0.65%
IDFxh1	241635	16554	6.9%	256	1.54%
PPxh1	92191	9504	10.3%	196	2.06%

- Protects important elevation gradient from bunch grass on lower slopes to interior Douglas-fir on upper slopes
- Contains some rare old growth larch, ponderosa pine and Douglas-fir stands
- Steep slopes with open forests and small grassland areas occur on south-facing slopes, dense forests on north facing slopes
- Important winter range for California bighorn sheep and white tailed deer
- Provides habitat for white-headed woodpecker, snakes, bats, flammulated owl, Williamson's sapsucker, sharp-tailed grouse, and California bighorn sheep
- Important white-headed woodpecker and Williamson's sapsucker habitat in old growth larch stands
- Part of a system of protected areas in the south Okanagan which provides connectivity to species (see partial list above)
- One of the last remaining and available forested areas in low elevation slopes of the south Okanagan
- Contains known records of 19 red and 6 blue provincially listed species (see Appendix II for a Conservation Data Centre complete listing)

Recreation / Tourism

- Recreational/tourism opportunities of the Anarchist Protected Area are associated with wildlife viewing, hiking, photography, hunting and ski-touring opportunities

Cultural Heritage

- There are no known archaeological sites within the protected area

Education and Research Role

- Anarchist Protected Area could provide an excellent educational and interpretive example of the importance of connectivity for species and ecosystems in a human/wildlife interface landscape, and the importance of protected areas for helping to maintain biodiversity in the South Okanagan

- The Canadian Wildlife Service (CWS) and the Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection (MWLAP) – Environmental Stewardship Division have been studying the California bighorn sheep in the area

Significance in the Protected Area System

- Lies within the South Okanagan Highland and Southern Okanagan Basin ecosections. The South Okanagan Highland ecosection is poorly represented within the provincial protected areas system. Only 0.55% of this ecosection is in protected area status. Anarchist Protected Area accounts for 82.8% of the overall protected area representation of this ecosection. The South Okanagan Basin is well represented (12.35%) in the protected areas system. Anarchist contributes only 2.22% of the overall protected area representation of this ecosection.
- Protects rare low-elevation stands of ponderosa pine, larch and Douglas-fir and associated flora and fauna species
- Protects important winter range for California bighorn sheep and white-tailed deer
- Provides low intensity wildlife viewing opportunities

Other Land Uses and Interests

Access

- Anarchist – the North Site is accessible from Mica Forest Service Road, and Anarchist – the South Site from a gravel road off the southwest corner of the protected area
- There are no maintained trails within the protected area

Existing Tenures, Alienations and Encumbrances

All existing liens, charges, and encumbrances other than those applying to commercial logging, mining or energy exploration and development, will continue to be authorized through issuance of park use permits (PUPs). This policy recognizes all existing *Land Act* tenures, special use permits (SUPs), water rights, trapping licenses and other legal tenures and rights.

Existing tenures within the protected area:

- 1 guide/outfitter
- Portions of one grazing tenure fall within the protected area (both sites)

Adjacent Patterns of Land Use

- Forest harvesting activities occur on adjacent woodlot lands managed by the Osoyoos Indian Band
- Extensive cattle grazing occurs on lands bounding the protected area
- Guide/Outfitter has important hunting territory just north of the protected area
- Other protected areas in the vicinity of Anarchist Protected Area include Vaseux Protected Area, Haynes Lease Ecological Reserve and Inkaneep and Haynes Point provincial parks and South Okanagan Grasslands Protected Area

- Nature Trust is actively trying to acquire land in the South Okanagan for conservation purposes

Aboriginal Interests

- Interests of the Okanagan First Nations are unknown

Other Agency Interests

- Ministry of Forests for maintenance of Forest Service roads, management of grazing tenures and assistance in the management of forest health issues
- Ministry of Forests, Protection Branch manages wildfire responses on behalf of the Environmental Stewardship Division

Private and Public Stakeholder Interests

Private Interests:

- Management of grazing licenses that overlap the protected area
- Management of forest health issues

Public interests:

- Community of Osoyoos
- Osoyoos Indian Band
- Nature viewing
- Hiking and ski-touring opportunities
- Nature conservation and ecosystem management (non-government groups and organizations)
- Fire management for ecosystem health and protection of adjacent private properties

Role of Anarchist Protected Area

The primary roles of Anarchist Protected Area are to protect i) a representative example of rare low-elevation ecosystems of the Southern Okanagan Highland and Southern Okanagan Basin ecosections and their associated flora and fauna and ii) rare species and their habitats. The protected area also provides important winter range for California bighorn sheep, and provides habitat connectivity to other protected areas to the north and south. A secondary role is to continue providing low intensity wildlife viewing, hiking and nature appreciation opportunities.

Management Commitments and Issues

Management Direction From Previous and Ongoing Planning

The Okanagan-Shuswap Land and Resource Management Plan (LRMP) recommended establishment of the protected area with logging, mining and energy exploration and development prohibited. The LRMP provided statements of management direction that have been incorporated into the management direction statement.

Management Issues

The following table lists specific issues, by theme, requiring management action:

Theme	Issue
Protecting Natural Values	• Impact of vegetation encroachment on grassland communities and associated reduction in grazing habitat for California bighorn sheep and other ungulates • Natural wild fires have normally occurred in the area on average, every 40 years. The area has not had a fire for about 40 years thus the important role of fire in the ecosystem is missing • Need to develop a vegetation management strategy to deal with other forest health issues • Impact of cattle grazing activities on winter forage for sheep and other ungulates • Need to develop strategies to minimize human/wildlife conflicts • Need to identify strategies to ensure ecological integrity of the protected area is maintained • Impact of recreational activities and other activities on red and blue-listed species and California bighorn sheep habitat
Protecting Recreational Values	• Determination of permissible activities
Protecting Cultural Values	• Little is known of the cultural values • Need to inventory archaeological and cultural values
Public Safety	• Need to identify and mitigate public safety hazards • Lack of public safety information
Visitor Information/Interpretation	• Need to provide accurate and up-to-date visitor information concerning recreational opportunities and educational material • Need to determine strategies to relay the importance of Anarchist Protected Area for the protection of red and blue-listed species
First Nations Values	• Unknown First Nations information on the area • Need for enhanced communication with First Nations concerning their interests in the protected area

Management Direction

Management Objectives and Strategies

The following table lists specific strategies, by theme, to achieve management objectives:

Objective	Strategy
Protect natural values	• Development of a vegetation management strategy to deal with such issues as emulating the impacts of wildfire on the ecosystem, retention of old growth stands of larch, ponderosa pine and Douglas-fir • Development of a range management strategy in consultation with the Ministry of Forests and range tenure licensee to ensure the continuation of good winter range habitat for California bighorn sheep and other ungulates and protection of rare species/habitats • Undertake inventories of the natural values (flora and fauna), focusing on species at risk • Work with the Ministry of Forests and forest companies to minimize the

	potential of wind throw within the protected area resulting from forest harvesting activities on adjacent land • Encourage compliance with provincial hunting regulations • Maintain sustainable wildlife harvest levels for hunters and the guide/outfitter
Manage Recreational Values	• Work with the Ministry of Forests to maintain road access to the protected area, and where appropriate, de-activate logging roads no longer used for operational purposes; close/gate non-status roads not required • Provide low-intensity recreation opportunities such as hiking and nature study • Minimize impacts of recreational activities by limiting the provision of recreation infrastructure and services (no formalized trails, visitor facilities) other than those necessary to provide basic visitor information • No new visitor facilities will be built in the protected area • Access may be restricted at certain times of the year to protect red- and blue-listed species • Undertake an assessment of public safety hazards within the protected area and take appropriate mitigation measures to minimize, reduce or eliminate identified hazards • Provide adequate signage and public information on the natural hazards of the area and ways to minimize public safety incidents (bear awareness)
Protect Cultural Values	• Undertake an overview assessment of the cultural values and determine if a detailed management strategy is needed
Provision of Visitor Information and Services	• Provide information to visitors on the importance of the area for the protection of provincially red- and blue-listed species
First Nations	• Work with the local First Nations to determine their traditional use and interest in the protected area

Integration with Other Land Use Planning Processes

- The protected area will be managed in accordance to the *Park Act* and corresponding regulations
- The protected area will be managed in accordance to the direction provided in the OSLRMP

Consultation and Future Planning

The Environmental Stewardship Division will continue to consult with local groups to determine promotion, information and volunteer strategies. Also, the Environmental Stewardship Division will work with the appropriate Okanagan First Nations to further determine heritage and cultural values and strategies to manage these interests. Future planning will not compromise the ecological integrity of natural or cultural values within the protected area, especially where there are species or communities that are considered at risk in the province. Integrated planning with other agencies, adjacent land managers and interest groups will assist in providing ecosystem integrity and promote long-term stewardship of the area.

Zoning Plan

The entire protected area is zoned as *Special Feature* to protect the importance of the area for the protection of provincially listed red and blue species. The objective of this zone is to protect and present significant natural or cultural resources, features or processes because of their special character, fragility and heritage values. Recreational use levels will be kept at low levels with visitor facilities limited to those necessary for enhancing the interpretation and educational experience. Access may be restricted during certain times of the year to protect red and blue-listed species.

Appendix I
Acceptable Activities, Uses and Facilities – Anarchist Protected Area

Activity/Use/Facility	Acceptability
Aboriginal traditional activities and uses	Y
Hunting	Y
Fishing	N
Trapping	N2
Grazing (domestic livestock)	N2
Recreational Gold Panning/Rock Hounding	N
Utility corridors	N
Communication Sites	N
Horse Use/Pack Animals	Y
Guide Outfitting (hunting)	Y
Nature Tours	Y
Guide Outfitting (fishing)	N
Guide Outfitting (nature tours)	Y
Guide Outfitting (river rafting)	N
Camping	N
Campfires	N
Commercial Recreation (facility-based)	N
Commercial recreation (non-facility based)	N
Backcountry Huts	N
Water Control Structures	N
Road Access	Y
Off-road Access (snowmobiling)	N
Off-road Access (motorized)	N
Off-road Access (mechanical activities)	N
Motorized Water Access	N
Aircraft Access	N
Fire Management (suppression)	Y
Fire Management (prescribed fire management)	Y
Fire Management (prevention)	Y
Forest Insect/Disease Control	M
Noxious Weed Control	M
Exotic Insect/Disease Control	M
Scientific Research (specimen collection)	M
Scientific Research (manipulative activities)	M

Y= allowed subject to conditions identified in the management direction statement or management plan

M= may be permitted if compatible with protected area objectives

N= not allowed

N1= allowed for expressed management purposes only

N2= present and allowed to continue but not normally allowed

Appendix II
Conservation Data Centre red- and blue-listed species

Category	Latin Name	Common Name	Red or Blue Listing
Vascular Plants	ASTER FRONDOSUS	Short-Rayed Aster	Red List
Vascular Plants	COREOPSIS TINCTORIA VAR ATKINSONIANA	Atkinson's Coreopsis	Red List
Vascular Plants	LAPPULA OCCIDENTALIS VAR CUPULATA	Western Stickseed	Red List
Vascular Plants	HALIMOLOBOS WHITEDII	White's Halimolobos	Red List
Vascular Plants	LEPIDIUM DENSIFLORUM VAR PUBICARPUM	Prairie Pepper-Grass	Red List
Vascular Plants	CUSCUTA PENTAGONA	Five-Angled Dodder	Blue List
Vascular Plants	ASTRAGALUS SCLEROCARPUS	Dalles Milk-Vetch	Red List
Vascular Plants	RIBES OXYACANTHOIDES SSP COGNATUM	Northern Gooseberry	Red List
Vascular Plants	CAMISSONIA ANDINA	Andean Evening Primrose	Red List
Vascular Plants	GAURA COCCINEA	Scarlet Gaura	Red List
Vascular Plants	OROBANCHE CORYMBOSA SSP MUTABILIS	Flat-Topped Broomrape	Red List
Vascular Plants	LINANTHUS SEPTENTRIONALIS	Northern Linanthus	Blue List
Vascular Plants	SALIX AMYGDALOIDES	Peach-Leaf Willow	Red List
Vascular Plants	BOLBOSCHOENUS FLUVIATILIS	River Bulrush	Blue List
Vascular Plants	ERAGROSTIS PECTINACEA	Tufted Lovegrass	Red List
Vascular Plants	MUHLENBERGIA GLOMERATA	Marsh Muhly	Blue List
Vascular Plants	ERIGERON POLIOSPERMUS VAR POLIOSPERMUS	Cushion Fleabane	Blue List
Vascular Plants	SPHAERALCEA COCCINEA	Scarlet Globe-Mallow	Red List
Vascular Plants	SPHAERALCEA MUNROANA	Munroe's Globe-Mallow	Red List
Vascular Plants	GILIA SINUATA	Shy Gilia	Red List
Vascular Plants	SALIX AMYGDALOIDES	Peach-Leaf Willow	Red List
Vascular Plants	IPOMOPSIS MINUTIFLORA	Small-Flowered Ipomopsis	Red List
Vascular Plants	VERBENA HASTATA VAR SCABRA	Blue Vervain	Red List
Birds	PICOIDES ALBOLARVATUS	White-Headed Woodpecker	Red List
Mammals	EUDERMA MACULATUM	Spotted Bat	Blue List
Reptiles	*Four data protected records*		